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PATENT 8048-1072

IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Kunihiko HORIKAWA et al.

Conf.

Application No. NEW NATIONAL PHASE

Group

Filed December 13, 2004

Examiner

INFORMATION RECORDING DEVICE AND INFORMATION RECORDING METHOD

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

December 13, 2004

Sir:

The following preliminary amendments and remarks are respectfully submitted in connection with the above-identified application.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begin on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 10 of this paper.

An Appendix is attached following the signature page of this paper.